OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Reggie Wassana

Governor

Gilbert Miles

Lieutenant Governor



EXECUTIVE BRANCH SIXTH AMENDED EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-05

WHEREAS as of October 1, 2020, there has been 88,369 cases of COVID-19 confirmed in the State of Oklahoma, an increase of 29,636 over the past month, and 7,233,042 cases in the United States. To date, there have been 1,035 deaths in Oklahoma and 206,932 deaths in the United States due to COVID-19. The World Health Organization and Center for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as "high" both globally and in the United States; and

WHEREAS the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes have lost several tribal members, particularly elders, to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS every single county in Oklahoma as well as all of the counties in the Cheyenne and Arapaho service area have active cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS as COVID-19's impact continues to evolve, it is important to take measures to protect Cheyenne and Arapaho members against this threat; and

WHEREAS data has shown that the number of cases of COVID-19 continues to rise in Cheyenne and Arapaho territory at an exponential rate and our schools and tribal children continue to be impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS due to the ongoing threat of COVID-19 for at least the majority of the 2020-2021 school year, action must be taken to ensure the continuing education of Cheyenne and Arapaho children and the Tribes fully support all precautionary measures that schools are providing to ensure our children's safety, including our Cheyenne and Arapaho Headstart and Daycare Programs; and

WHEREAS the increased case numbers and hospitalizations also necessitate the need for an increased focus on precautionary measures by both businesses and individuals; and

WHEREAS the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes COVID-19 Task Force that is made up of members of the Tribes Health Board, Clinton Service Unit, and the Tribes Department of Health continues to help the Tribes stay on track with protecting our tribal members and keeping up with contact tracing; and

WHEREAS after consultation with the COVID-19 Task Force, Legislators and employees within my administration, it is necessary to extend the closure of our tribal offices with the exception of limited essential employees in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS in taking such critical measures to protect public health there will be direct economic consequences for tribal programs and businesses across Cheyenne and Arapaho Territory that provide employment for many tribal members, including our casinos and restaurants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, REGGIE WASSANA, Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, in accordance with the authority invested in me, do hereby issue the following order to nd ARAPAH become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. There is hereby declared that an emergency caused by the threat of COVID-19 still exist to the Cheyenne and Arapaho members and to the public's health and safety.
- 2. All branches of government and businesses shall adhere to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Pandemic/Epidemic Response Act for employee workplace, testing and safety measures in response to COVID-19. This will include:
 - a) Taking all recommendations from the COVID-19 Task Force and instituting changes as the need arises in how the Tribes responds to coronavirus.
 - b) Wearing masks is mandatory for all employees, visitors and patrons in all of our tribal buildings and businesses.
 - c) Casino and travel plaza operations will be allowed to remain open with limited operations following its reopening guidelines which includes but is not limited to:
 - Temperature checks of all employees and patrons
 - Sanitation stations throughout the casino
 - Use of disinfection of common areas
 - Monitoring workforce for indicative symptoms to limit and mitigate any outbreaks
 - Develop and implement internal policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following employee COVID-19 testing
 - Continue to adhere to local guidance from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Task Force as well as CDC guidance regarding social distancing
 - Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible
 - Use of face coverings required for employees and patrons
 - d) All employees must be tested for the coronavirus and/or quarantine for 14 days before returning to the workplace if they are exposed to coronavirus.
- 3. Use and access to all tribal powwow grounds will no longer be authorized for gatherings of any kind, including benefit dances, powwows, and funerals.

- 4. All Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal powwows are cancelled for 2020 and will not be allowed to take place at tribal powwow grounds or on tribal land.
- 5. All Cheyenne and Arapaho holiday meals and gatherings (Thanksgiving and Christmas) will not be allowed to take place at our community halls or outside locations in order to prevent large gatherings.
- 6. Limited essential personnel will continue reporting to their workplace in accordance with this Order. Unless told otherwise, nonessential personnel should not be reporting to work but should be working from home to the extent that is possible.
- 7. Tribal courts shall continue limited operations for court hearings following the procedures outlined by the Judicial Branch for attending court in-person and using audio/video as necessary.
- 8. In accordance with the Governor's plan to resume full tribal government operations, all remaining employees will tentatively return to their work duty station on Monday, November 2, 2020 unless this Executive Order is amended stating otherwise. Exclusions are provided for employees who are elders and/or those who have underlying health issues.
- 9. Essential service employees and offices will continue to provide services on a limited basis to the extent that social distancing can be practiced.
- 10. All branches of government and tribal departments shall establish and, if necessary, implement a remote work policy that balances the safety and welfare of tribal employees with the critical services they provide.
- 11. All tribal departments shall encourage Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members interacting with tribal services to utilize all electronic (online, telephone) options whenever possible.
- 12. All tribal commissions shall continue to promulgate any emergency rules necessary to respond to the emergency and to comply with the directives contained herein.
- 13. The HOPE program, in responding to this emergency, may make necessary amendments and/or relax its guidelines to assist tribal members with emergency assistance who have been directly impacted by COVID-19. All request will be handled in the order they are received.
- 14. Tribal programs, in responding to this emergency, may make necessary emergency acquisitions to fulfill the purposes of this declaration. If using a credit card to make such acquisitions, programs may purchase the necessary acquisitions without regard to the current procurement policy, but purchases are limited to \$3,000. Programs may make the necessary emergency acquisitions without the requirement to follow bidding requirement/limitations on such emergency acquisitions. Such necessary emergency purchases shall be capped at \$50,000 per transaction. All such purchases must be readily identifiable as such, as following the conclusions of this threat, all such necessary emergency acquisitions will be audited to determine if they were made for emergency purposes.
- 15. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes COVID-19 Task Force shall continue to provide regular updates to tribal leadership.
- 16. Unless otherwise specified in the reopening of the Tribes, all tribal programs and individuals should follow World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease

- (CDC) guidelines for social distancing by staying out of crowded places, not gathering in groups, and staying at least 6 feet from other people.
- 17. Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members continue to act responsibly during this public health emergency. The intent of this Executive Order is to ensure that the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes continues to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible. All law enforcement and regulatory commissions that have enforcement authority under existing law should focus first on educating and working to promote best practices to accomplish this goal. Upon an initial violation, notice of the provisions of this order and the associated guidance from the Cheyenne and Arapaho COVID-19 Task Force shall be provided and an opportunity to comply shall be offered.
- 18. This Order shall supersede any provisions found in all previous Executive Orders.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as thereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of Records and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, its departments, programs, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto signed this Order on this 1st day of October 2020.

Reggie Wassana, Governor Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes